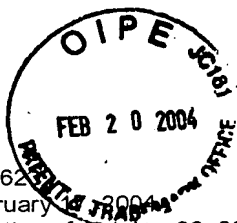


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Appl. No. 09/582,623  
Amdt. Dated February 20, 2004  
Reply to Office action of October 20, 2003



36418

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Rene Chiocca, et al. Art Unit: 3641  
Serial No.: 09/582,623 Filed: July 21, 2000  
Title: DEVICE FOR TRANSVERSE IMMOBILIZATION OF NUCLEAR  
FUEL ASSEMBLIES INSIDE TRANSPORT CONTAINERS  
Examiner: Harvey E. Behrend Docket No.: 34988

**AMENDMENT "G"**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RECEIVED**  
FEB 27 2004

**GROUP 3600**

Sir:

This Amendment is being filed in response to the final Office action dated October 20, 2003. The shortened statutory period for response to the Office action expired on January 20, 2004. Applicant hereby petitions and requests a one (1) month extension of time to extend the response period from January 20, 2004 through February 20, 2004. By this amendment, twenty-two (22) total claims remain pending in this application including five (5) independent claims. A check in the amount of \$318 is enclosed to cover the \$110 one (1) month extension fee, \$36 fee for two (2) total claims in excess of twenty (20) and \$172 for two (2) independent claims in excess of three (3). Applicant requests that the application be amended in the following manner.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Arguments/Remarks** begin on page 11.

02/24/2004 JBALINAH 00000100 09582623  
01 FC:1251 110.00 OP

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|--|-----------------------------------|
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below. |                                   |
| February 17, 2004  | Robert F. Bodi                    |
| Date   | Name of Attorney for Applicant(s) |
|  | Signature of Attorney             |

02/24/2004 JBALINAH 00000101 09582623  
01 FC:1201 172.00 OP  
02 FC:1202 36.00 OP